Backlog of and ST Vacancies

1836. SHRI KRISHAN DUTT SULTANPURI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) the backlog of vacancies of posts reserved for scheduled castes and scheduled tribes in his Ministry in the beginning of current year;

(b) progress made in filling up these reserved posts during the last three months; and

(c) the time by which the remaining reserved posts are likely to be filled up?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) Scheduled Castes - 1

Scheduled Tribes - 8

(b) One post of Scheduled Tribes filled up in April, 1991

(c) Vacancies have been communicated to the Department of Personnel & Training, which control the services, for nominating suitable candidates.

Working Women's Hostels in Kerala

1837. SHRI THAYIL JOHN ANJALOSE: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESORCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the amount sanctioned by the Government for the construction of working women's hostels in Kerala; and

(b) the number of working women's hostels proposed to be constructed in Kerala during 1991-92 alongwith the details therefor;

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENTS OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS AND THE DEPARTMENT OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (KUMRI MAMATA BANERJEE): (a) As amount of Rs. 10.93 crores has been sanctioned to various voluntary and other eligible organisation towards construction of hostel buildings for 102 Hostels to provide accommodation to 8725 working women with day care centre facilities for 1535 children in 54 hostels in Kerala, since the inception of the Scheme of Assistance for Construction of Hostel Building for Working Women with Day Care Centre for Children in 1972-73.

(b) State/Union-territory-wise allocation of projects is not made under the Scheme. Projects are sanctioned on the basis of complete applications received from voluntary organisations through the State Government/Union Territory Administration concerned.

Blind Children in Country

1838. SHRI K. PRADHANI:
SHRI PARASRAM BHARDWAJ:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have conducted any survey to determine the number of blind children below 5 years of age;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;

(c) whether the Government have also sought the advice of Medic 1 Experts in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof including the recommendations/suggestions made in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI D.K. THARA DEVI SIDDHARTHA): (a) and (b). The ICMR had conducted a collaborative study on blindness in 1971-74 in 7 different centres representing 7 different regions of the country for children less than 7 years of age. Their findings are as under:

Persons covered: 81,100

Blind persons: 61

Prevalence rate per

1000 populati 0.75

(c) and (d). As per expert advice, severe vitamin 'A' deficiency being an important cause of blindness among small children, a programme of prophylaxis against blindness due to vitamin 'A' deficiency among children was started. Under this programme so far, intensive doses of vitamin 'A' (2 lakh international units) are given to children in age group 1-5 years at six month intervals. However, as pe expert advice, the schedule is being revised to give are does of vitamin 'A' (1 lakh international units) at 9 month of age and subsequently 2 lakh international units every six months upto 3 years to age.

Rehabilitation of Leprosy Patients

1839. SHRI. B. DEVARAJAN:
SHRI K. PRADHANI:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of Leprosy Rehabilitation and Promotion Units, State-wise;

(b) whether some voluntary organisations are also engaged in medico-social and vocational rehabilitation of leprosy patients; and

(c) if so, the number thereof, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI D.K. THARA DEVI SIDDHARTHA): (a) There are 25 Leprosy Rehabilitation and Promotion Units. The State-wise distribution is given in the State attached.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Under the National Leprosy Eradication Programme, 16 leprosy Rehabilitation Promotion Units functioning in voluntary organisation sector are engaged in rehabilitation of Leprosy affected persons. The State-Wise distribution is at Annexure.

STATEMENT

National leprosy Eradication Programme

Number of LRPUS Units

Sl.No	*State/UT*	*Total No. LRPUs*	*V.O Sector LRPU*
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1	1
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	0	0